Department of Massachusetts

142th Annual Encampment

April 26-27, 2024

Wakefield, Massachusetts

2024 Proceedings

2024 Proceedings

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Roger L. Olsen Award for the most outstanding brother in the past year
2024

John W. Wilder Camp 54 Department & Archivist

Department Commander's Recognition

Kevin Tucker PDC Department Counselor

Daniel Murray PDC Past Department Secretary/Treasurer

142nd Encampment Department of Massachusetts
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
April 24, 2024
Officer's Roll Call

Commander	John Dupré	Present
Senior Vice Commander	Roderick Fraser	Present
Junior Vice Commander	John Wilder	Present
Secretary	Daniel Murray	Present
Treasurer	Daniel Murray	Present
Council 1	Kevin Tucker	Present
Council 2	Dexter Bishop	Present
Council 3	William Naughton	Present
Patriotic Instructor	Ken London	Present
Chaplain	Dexter Bishop	Present
Historian	Peter Preble	Present
Color Bearer	Open	
Guard	Henry Buckley	Absent
Guide	Charles Lewis	Present
Counselor	Kevin Tucker	Present
Civil War Memorials Officer	Matthew Sargent	Present
Graves Registration Officer	William Naughton	Present
Eagle Scout Award Officer	Michael Terry	Present
ROTC Award Officer	Albert Smith	Present
GAR Highway Officer	George Maple	Present
Department Organizer	Open	
Communications Officer	Ron Glidden	Present
Quartermaster	John Wilder	Present

Attendance Roster
142nd Encampment Department of Massachusetts
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
In Official Session April 27, 2024

Name	Camp	DC	CC	PDC	PCC	DEL	Visit	Total
Matthew Ahern	104		x					
Dexter Bishop	5			x				
Richard Cultrera	5					x		
Joseph Davis III	54					x		
James Doran	5					x		
John Dupré	25	x						
Roderick Fraser	54		x					
Daniel Geary	104				x			
Ronald Glidden	54					x		
Gerard Hayes	54					x		
Edward Knight	15		x					
Nathaniel Knight	15					x		
Charles Lewis	22		x					
Kenneth London	104				x			
George Maple Jr.	25			x				
Daniel Murray	104			x				
William Naughton	104			x				
Richard Nichols	104					x		
Edward Norris	25			x				PCinC
Rev. Peter Preble	54				x			
Matthew Sargent	25		x					
Albert Smith	5					x		
Kevin Tucker	104			x				National Rep.
John Wilder	104				x			
Peter Redman	ME	x					x	
Totals	6	1	5	6	4	8		24

142nd Annual Encampment
Department of Massachusetts
April 27, 2024

Department Commander John Dupré: Welcome, first of all to the 142nd Massachusetts, Department of Massachusetts Encampment. I just want to run through a few things. The men's restroom is down the hall and around the corner. The Ladies room is down the next hall. First of all, is everyone registered? If not, you can get registered and 2nd a couple of the rules. First, we're going to be recording. We have a microphone. If you're going to address the encampment you come up to the microphone, state your name, your Camp number, and whatever you want to say. Another thing, no cross talking. Last year we had quite a lot of cross talking in the background and made the recording difficult to come up with a proper transcript. That is what happened last year.

We want to make sure that if you want to say something, just get in line and wait your turn and speak your piece. Another thing, that the officer's, Patriotic Instructor, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, is when they leave their seat to address the Encampment, the seat cannot remain empty. So, someone needs to stand up and sit in their seat while they're addressing the Encampment. I think that's pretty much it.

So, the members of the 142nd Annual Encampment of the Department of Massachusetts, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, will now come to order. Guide, determine if all present are entitled to remain and Color Bearer should serve the right.

The Secretary will call the roll of the Office of the Department.

Department Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Commander. John Dupré.

Department Commander John Dupré: Present.

Department Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Senior Vice Commander. Rod Fraser.

Senior Vice Commander Rod Frazier: Present.

Department Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Junior Vice Commander. John Wilder.

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: Present.

Department Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Secretary/Treasurer. Daniel Murray, present.

Department Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Council 1. Kevin Tucker.

Council 1. Kevin Tucker: Present

Department Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Council 2. Dexter Bishop.

Council 2 Dexter Bishop: Present.

Department Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Council 3. William Naughton.

Unknown: He is on his way to be here.

Department Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Patriotic Instructor. Ken London.

Patriotic Instructor Ken London: Present

Department Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Chaplain. Dexter Bishop.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: Present.

Department Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Historian. Peter Preble.

Historian Peter Preble: Present.

Department Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Civil War Memorials Officer. Matthew Sargent

Civil War Memorials Officer Matthew Sargent: Present

Department Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Eagle Scout Coordinator. Michael Terry.

Eagle Scout Coordinator, Michael Terry: Present.

Department Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: GAR Highway Officer. George Maple

GAR Highway Officer George Maple: Present.

Department Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: ROTC Officer. Al Smith.

ROTC Officer Al Smith: Present.

Department Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Guide. Charles Lewis.

Guide Charles Lewis: Present.

Department Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Communications Officer. Ron Glidden,

Communications Officer Ron Glidden: Present.

Department Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Department Quartermaster. John Wilder.

Department Quartermaster John Wilder: Present.

Department Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Guard Henry Buckley. Absent. Sir, the role is called.

Department Commander John Dupré: All right, Brothers, upon what principles is our Order founded and what duties do we inculcate?

All: Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty.

Department Commander John Dupré: Brothers, we meet again as Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War in annual session, to review the work of the past and to plan for the future. May our conduct and our deliberations be marked by mutual tolerance and fraternal courtesy, ever keeping in mind our duty to our country, to our Order, and to ourselves. The Chaplain will invoke the Divine blessing.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: Our Heavenly Father, the high and mighty ruler of the universe, who looks down upon the government of men, we earnestly ask Your favor to bless our native land and preserve in purity and integrity its free institutions for all coming time. Bless our Order, grant that it may long exist, and that it may continue to be an instrument of great good to all. Give us willing hands and ready hearts to carry out properly its principles and objectives. Keep green in our minds the memory of those who sacrificed so much that the life of the nation might be preserved, and deal with them in all things with Your special mercy. Give us Your aid in conducting the business for which we are assembled, and so bless us that Charity and Justice, and Peace and Harmony shall remain and flow from us. Amen.

All: Amen.

Department Commander John Dupré: Brothers, we will now give the Pledge of Allegiance. Color Bearer, present the colors.

All: I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands. One nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Department Commander John Dupré: By virtue of the authority vested in me, I hereby declare the 142nd Annual Encampment of the Department of Massachusetts, Sons of Union, Veterans of the Civil War, duly open for the transaction of such business as may legally and properly come before it. The Guard will admit all brothers qualified to enter.

Department Commander John Dupré: Go to the. All right, so this is the Memorial Service for departed members. The boatman comes and comes again. And Brothers, one by one, He bears away far o'er the tide, beyond the setting sun. Senior Vice Commander, to what purpose shall we devote these moments of our meeting?

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: Commander, to the memory of Brother William Winney, Brother Bruce Rhodes and Brother Eugene Kemp who were honored members of our Order and our camps.

Department Commander John Dupré: Secretary, were our brothers true to our order and did they loyally support it?

Department Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: They did, Commander.

Department Commander John Dupré: Patriotic Instructor, were our brothers true to the principles denoted by the flag of your station, Patriotism, Strength, and Courage?

Patriotic Instructor Ken London: They were Commander.

Department Commander John Dupré: Senior Vice Commander, were our brothers true to the principles denoted by the flag of your station, Charity and Purity?

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: They were Commander.

Department Commander John Dupré: Junior Vice Commander were our brothers true to the principles denoted by the flag of your station, Fraternity and Faithfulness?

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: They were Commander.

Department Commander John Dupré: Brother Guide, were our brothers true to the Flag of our Country, and were they ever ready to defend it against all enemies?

Guide Charles Lewis: They were Commander.

Department Commander John Dupré: Does any brother wish to offer a tribute to the memory of our departed Brothers? If so, he may now speak.

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: Commander, Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser. Brother Bruce Rhodes, 1959 to 2024. Bruce passed away on March 19th, 2024, at the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, FL. with his wife Diane by his side after a short illness. Born in Palmer, MA to the late Wesley and Gloria Smith Rhodes, he was a 1977 graduate of Ludlow High School where he was a member of the band as a tuba player. He worked at Hamilton Standard for over 36 years, retiring in 2015. He was a current resident of Port Orange, FL, He was a proud member of the Shriners of Springfield and spent many years as president of the Mellon Shriner Military Band. While playing music, he had many guitars that he was perfecting. He also had a Honda Tri motorcycle he loved to ride for hours. The beach was his happy place, but meeting his first grandson Lincoln this past Christmas was his proudest moment. Bruce was married to the love of his life, Diane Macintosh Rhodes for nearly 24 years. A father to Melissa, Andrew and his wife, Ashley. A very proud grandpa to Lincoln. He also leaves a sister Priscilla, sister Barbara DuMont and niece Lynn Martin. He also left several extended family members and friends, especially his best friend Mike Slepecki.

Brother Eugene Kemp. Eugene Kemp, 80, of North Adams died Saturday, July 29th, 2023, at Berkshire Medical Center. He was born in North Adams on March 3rd, 1943. The son of Phillip and Mary Rose Labarre Kemp, Eugene attended schools in Clarksburg, Powell, Williamstown and in Germany. He was employed for 23 years at WR Grace Company. He was a board member of the North Adams Historical Society since 1996. The family includes wife Linda Louise, (nee Kiontke) Kemp who he married September 10th, 1977, sons Kevin Kemp of Adams, Jeffrey

Kemp and his wife, Jessica Kemp of Adams and grandchildren Anna Jacob, Allison and Ella. He also leaves several nieces, nephews and cousins. He was predeceased by his brothers Phillip Kemp, Theodore Kemp, Donald Kemp, sister Joan Simerson and a special aunt and uncle, Frank and Irene Weeks that he lived with for a while.

Brother William James Winney, 85 of West Springfield, MA passed away Friday, March 31, 2023. William leaves behind his beloved wife Nancy of 48 years. He was born in Northampton, MA and graduated from North Hampton High School. William was patriotic and proud to serve his country for 38 years. He was a Chief Master Sergeant of the 104th Tactical Fighter Group at Barnes Air Force Base. His active duty included traveling to London, Turkey, Spain and Germany during the Berlin crisis. After retiring from the Air Force William continued working in the civil service field for the United States Post Office for 10 years. William was an active member at St. Thomas the Apostle church, Sons of the Revolution, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and the American Legion. He enjoyed watching the Red Sox and Patriots and fishing, camping, genealogy and reading on his porch. William leaves behind six children. William Jr of North Hampton MA, Brenda Josie of Buxton ME, David Winney of Sanford. ME, Daniel Winney of Saco, ME, Paul Wallski of West Springfield MA and Ami Jasmin of Southwick MA. He loved all his children, 13 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren.

Department Commander John Dupré: Chaplain, have you any word of comfort for us from the Holy Book which has an honored place upon our Altar?

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Jesus said: "I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live. And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. He also said let not your hearts be troubled, ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you; and if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto myself, that where I am there ye may be also.

Department Commander John Dupre: Brothers, what attitude should we always maintain toward the memory of our departed Brothers?

All: The faults of our brothers we write upon the sand, their virtues upon the tablets of love and memory.

Department Commander John Dupré: The chaplain will lead us in prayer.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: Our Father, who art in Heaven, the Father of our Lord Jesus, and the Father of us all, we pray for Your blessing to abide upon this humble service. Bless the memory of our departed Brothers. Bless and comfort those near and dear to them by the ties of the flesh and fraternity. Help us, each one, to appreciate more and more the blessings we receive, daily, from Your great heart of love, and help us to prove our gratitude for all these good gifts, by our lives of usefulness and integrity. Bless our friends and Brothers everywhere, and may we be

worthy of them and of You. Lead us graciously by Your strong right hand and make us all to be the citizens we are privileged to be in this godly land which You have given to us. We ask in the name of our Savior. Amen.

All: Amen

Department Commander John Dupré: 1st Order of Business is the appointment of the Committee on Credentials. Ed Norris, Matty Sargent and George Maple. Will you be the Committee on Credentials? All right. Recognition of guests. First, Brother Peter Redmond, Department Commander of the Department of Maine, welcome.

Brother Peter Redmond: From your Brothers in the Department of Maine, we wish our Brothers in the Department of Massachusetts a productive Encampment and you all have an open invitation to come up and visit us in the state of Maine. Thank you.

Department Commander John Dupré: Brother Rod.

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: Commander, Rod Frazier, Commander Camp 54. While the Credential Committee is reviewing the credentials, we have a new member of Camp 54 that we voted in this week, but we have not yet initiated. I am requesting permission to do that during this meeting. Maybe we could do that while the Credentials Committee is doing their work.

Department Commander John Dupré: We all know Kevin Tucker; he is the National Representative from the National Sons of Union Veterans.

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Tucker: Commander Dupre, Senior Vice Commander Fraser, Junior Vice Commander Wilder, Secretary Murray, Council members Bishop and Naughton, all Past Department and Camp Commanders, Delegates and all Brothers of the Department of Massachusetts. It is my great honor to be representing the National Organization here in the Department of Massachusetts and I thank you for your warm welcome and generosity. On behalf of the Commander in Chief, Peter Hritsko, Senior Viced Commander in Chief, Kevin Martin, the National Council of Administration and all the elected and appointed national officers, I came here to offer you their very hearty greetings of the National Organization. As officers, leaders, mentors and Brothers of our Order, we admire and support your fraternal spirit, your unique perspective, your vitality, and your vision for making this an even greater organization. We especially applaud your commitment to remembering and honoring the sacrifices of past generations; to promoting civic education and patriotism. And advocating for the principles upon which our country was founded. We very much look forward to supporting your efforts and working to assist you in carrying out the mission of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, to be true Americans and good citizens. To reject disloyalty or betrayal of our country in any form. To revere the names of our ancestors who gave their service and sacrifices and saved the Republic. To perpetuate the patriotic teachings of the Grand Army of the Republic, to be loyal to our Camps and our Order, and to be faithful to our brothers that we may work in fraternity for these ends. Thank you.

Department Commander John Dupré: All right. Are there any? Are there any resolutions that have been submitted in writing?

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: Commander we do have a resolution that was submitted. A Resolution from. Colonel Robert Gould Shaw Camp number 54. I'm Rod Fraser Camp Commander. A resolution to amend the National Organization's policy to further expand the scope of the Monuments and Memorials Grant. I submit in addition to the department's expenditures. Would you like me to read this Commander?

Department Commander John Dupré: Yes. Yes, please.

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: So, Brothers, my Camp is submitting this resolution to the Department for consideration and hopefully further up to the National Organization, and it's a resolution to amend the National Organization Policy to further expand the scope of the Monuments and Memorials Grant.

We have Nationals Monuments and Memorials Grant and right now is very restricted to basically monuments and memorials. So, there have been a number of Camps in this Department, Camp 25 being one, who requested money to preserve an original SUVCW Post charter, but were told that did not fall under the purview of the committee.

So, I will read the resolution: WHEREAS United States Code Title 36. Patriotic and National Observances, Ceremonies, and Organizations, Subtitle II. Patriotic and National Organizations, Part B. Organizations Chapter 2003, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, 36 USC § 200301 (2002), § 200302. Purposes" states, "To perpetuate the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the men who saved the Union in 1861 to 1865; to assist in every practicable way in the preservation and making available for research of documents and records pertaining to the Grand Army of the Republic and its members, and,

WHEREAS The "Constitution of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Article II. Purpose and Objects: states. "To perpetuate the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the men who saved the Union 1861 to 1865; to assist in every practicable way in the preservation and making available for research of documents and records pertaining to the Grand Army of the Republic and its members…", and,

WHEREAS The SUVCW National web site states, "The purpose of the Monument & Memorial Grant Fund is to assist Camps and Departments in their efforts to refurbish and restore Civil War related monuments and memorials", and,

WHEREAS the National Committee on Civil War Memorials has ruled that the current policy of the SUVCW does not allow for the use of Monument & Memorial Grant Fund grants for the preservation of Grand Army of the Republic halls, Grand Army of the Republic and Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War historical furniture, decorations, charters and other important documents,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the policy of the SUVCW concerning the Monument & Memorial Grant Fund be amended to include that grants may also be also used for the preservation of Grand Army of the Republic halls, Grand Army of the Republic and Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War historical furniture, decorations, charters and other important documents.

It was unanimously approved by the Brothers of Col. Robert Gould Shaw Camp 54, Department of Massachusetts, 23 March 2024. I have a couple of copies if anybody would like to copy.

Department Commander John Dupré: Thank you. OK. All right. So next

Resolutions Committee to review the proposals. Brother Ron Glidden, Brother Rich Cultrera and Brother Peter Preble. Next item will be the Officers reports. I can say that as Commander of the Department of Massachusetts I participated in our traditional activities. Memorial Day ceremonies at Bourne National Cemetery. I led the delegation to the National Encampment at Nashua. We've had four Department Officers meetings to attend. That is the best summary I can think of at the moment. Thank you. Now report from the Senior Vice Commander.

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: Rod Fraser Senior Vice Commander. To the 2024 Department Encampment. In the year since the last of Encampment I conducted the following business on behalf of the Order. I attended the Annual National Encampment in Nashua, NH. I continued to serve as Editor of our newsletter the Clarion Call. I personally recruited 5 new Brothers to the Order, one of them is here. I served as Chairman of the 2024 Department Encampment Site Committee. I was elected to the National Council administration. Thank you all for voting for me. I serve on the National Promotions and Marketing committee, and I serve on the National Special Committee on Veterans of Wars of the United States. I represented Commander Chief Hritsko as the installing officer in New Hampshire Department Encampment and also at the Connecticut Department Encampment. I attended Remembrance Day in Gettysburg. Along with my brothers in Camp 54, we continue the restoration of the General Charles Russell Lowell GAR plot in Mount Hope Cemetery as a project, as well as the city of Boston Soldiers and Sailors plot. I participated in the General Benjamin Butler remembrance ceremony. I participated in a Memorial Day ceremony at the Mass National Cemetery in Bourne. I participated in the 24th annual Lincoln Birthday brunch. I participated in the ceremony of dedication for the cemetery in Gloucester, MA. I continue in my role as a National SUVCW YouTube channel administrator and attended all Department Officers meetings. This is my report.

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Tucker: Brother Commander before you finish, can you update on the Mount Hope cemetery installation of the cannons?

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: Yes. So, thank you, brother. So, for the Mount Hope project that I mentioned.

Junior vice Commander John Wilder: Brother Tucker, you didn't speak to the chair.

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Tucker: Everybody's got to correct me, Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Tucker. Brother Rod would you elaborate on the Mt. Hope cemetery.

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: Yes, Brother, I will. So, years ago we started this project at Mount Hope Cemetery at the GAR plot, which is the General Charles Russell Lowell plot it was in bad shape, stones falling over, stones were black. There are 2 cannons that are all rusted. They originally were on gun carriages, but years ago those rotted away. They kind of were stacked up on, like, kind of these piles of bricks that look like couple of patio bricks underneath and everything. It looked pretty crappy and so we straightened all the stones, cleaned all the stones and continue to clean them every year. We raised funds to have new mounts made for the cannon. We had the cannons taken away sandblasted, properly preserved and then we had two granite blocks that the cannon to sit in. The granite blocks were delivered, I think, 2 weeks ago and the cannons were put on. So that part of the project is pretty much done, and we'll do some kind of a dedication of those for that sometime this year. An interesting aside Colonel Robert Gould Shaw Camp 54, that General Charles Russell Lowell was Colonel Shaw's brother-in-law. I only found out recently.

Council 1. Kevin Tucker: Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Tucker. Would the brother elaborate on how much money was raised and what the inscription is on the granite bases of the cannon.

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: Yeah, the money raised was around 12,000 dollars, I believe, $10,000, I would have to go look. I don't have. I don't have that exact figure with me, and it says that Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War 2023 on the stone. So, you know we put our name on the stone, so everybody knows who put the stone up there.

Department Commander John Dupré: Thank you. Next would be Junior Vice Commander.

Junior vice Commander John Wilder: Commander, Brother John Wilder Camp, 104 Department Junior Vice Commander. The past year I've received a small number of membership inquiries forwarded to me from the Junior Vice Commander in Chief and put each of them in contact with the Camp closest to them. I also received a couple of direct inquiries and did those in a similar manner. In conjunction with the Department Historian Peter Preble, great progress has been made on the Department archives. After receiving a donation of a large collection of annual proceedings of the Woman's Relief Corps, Department of Massachusetts, they were compiled with the records already in our collection and all were digitized. Thanks to a budget granted by the Department, a number of early Camp photos as well as the matching Post Commander Medals has now been acquired for our archives. Following discussions with the other Department Officers, I have written a set of guidelines to be used for a new committee formed to be directed to the financial support of camp run projects. Also, as Department Quartermaster I have worked to locate an inventory of Department owned equipment and other items and I can report that, in concurrence with the order that was voted on in general session at

last year's Encampment, Camp 15 has finally returned the Department colors. Those will be transferred to the archives.

Department Commander John Dupré: Next, the Patriotic Instructor's report.

Patriotic Instructor Ken London: OK, Form 40 the Patriotic Instructors report from each Camp was due on April 3rd. So far, I've gotten seven reports from Camp14, 15, 25, 26, 50, 54 and 104. The Department reports to National are due on June 1st.

Department Commander John Dupré: The Secretary Treasurer.

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: May I do it from my chair?

Department Commander John Dupré: Yes, you may.

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: All right, commander. This is for the Secretary's report. Daniel Murray Department Secretary/Treasurer. First, I'll do the Secretary's report. All of the Department reports required by National since last encampment have been submitted on time. Since the last Encampment no camps have been suspended for failure to submit their annual report. The current Department strength is 162 Brothers. Last year, our department strength was 168 Brothers. The total number of Camps in the Department is 11.

And the Treasurer's report as of March 31st, 2024, there's $18,879.05 in the checking account and $34,921.51 in the Savings account. The current value of the trusts and CDs is $181,286.60. The current market value of the Wells Fargo Fund is $819,063.53, which is a decrease of $38,213.85 from last March. The projected annual income from that account is now $43,648, which is a $4,981.00 increase from last March. Total assets for the department as of March 31st are $1,054,150. 72. Respectively, submitted Daniel Murray.

Department Commander John Dupré: Chaplain, do you have a report.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: My report is that I've been working all year long and attending all of the various events that I know of. Looking always for new things to do and I would bring up that working as the Chaplain I have done the groundwork to start 2 camps. I'll be turning in the paperwork to a new Commander very shortly. One in Topsfield and one in Gloucester. The Gloucester one is the one that is moving faster, that should be coming in within a week and a half or two weeks. The other, it will take a little longer. Thank you.

Department Commander John Dupré: Thank you very much. Historian Peter Preble.

Historian Peter Preble: Peter Preble Camp 54, Department Historian, I submitted a written report.to the Secretary previous. The archives of the Department are held at the Grand Army of the Republic Hall in Rockland. The archives consist of Department records and some records of the Auxiliary, the Woman's Relief Corps and the GAR. The archives are open for inspection and if you'd like to do a little research, that's available. You just need to make an appointment with myself or with Brother Wilder to gain access to the building. So, this year we completed the

following projects, continued organization of the Archives Room, digitization of the Women's Relief Corps, and Department of Massachusetts proceedings. Our proceedings, some proceedings are also digitized as a link on the website. For that, as well as a link to GAR proceedings. We acquired some old camp photos, a GAR Post Commander badge and the matching photos. Further updating of the archives includes removal of trash and broken furniture. There was quite a bit of it, even though it was historic, it needed to be wholesale removed from the building and disposed of to make more space. And I owe personally a debt of gratitude to our Junior Vice Commander for all of his work in the standing for hours at the scanner digitizing page after page after page after page. If you've ever done that before, you know how boring it can be, digitizing all of that information, so it is preserved. Commander that's my report.

Department Commander John Dupré: Next report would be Civil War Memorials Officer. Matthew Sargent.

Civil War Memorials Officer Matthew Sargent: Matthew Sargent Civil War Memorials Officer Camp 25. Obviously, the Department has been able to help many Camps with different Civil War Memorial, various items that the Camps have been doing. I think we'll hear about that from the individual Camps and overall, the Department continues to support the Camps. We have no overall project that is Department run. And that is my report.

Department Commander John Dupré: All right, GAR Highway Officer George Maple.

GAR Highway Officer George Maple: GAR Highway Officer George Maple Camp, 25. PDC. I have no report this year.

Department Commander John Dupré: All right. ROTC Officer Al Smith, do you have a report.

ROTC Officer Al Smith: Al Smith ROTC officer. I have three High school or two high schools and 1 college that just received a certificate and badge. North Quincy High School and Melvin King High School in Boston and MIT College, and their cadet program. I am unable to attend their ceremony because of so many ceremonial services in May, especially in May with all those different places we're going to be going to. I've been successful with the two high schools and the one college.

Department Commander John Dupré: Next will be Communications Officer Ron Glidden

Communications Officer Ron Glidden: Ron Glidden Communications Officer Camp 54. My report is that we have a web page that's up and running. The intent was to make it simple, easy to read and as responsive as possible. If anyone has suggestions, recommendations or edits that need to be made? Normally I can make those in a day or less, and the only last thing I just discovered recently, someone said they had been trying to get me for a couple months and I hadn't responded. I found their emails in my spam folder. If someone's trying to reach me to

change something and I will respond to you in a day. Find a different way to get ahold of me, something with a stamp. Other than that, we're trying to be as responsive as possible. Thanks for the suggestions.

Department Commander John Dupré: Thank you. I would suggest as a matter, John Dupre Department Commander currently, I would suggest as well to the Camps if you have trouble contacting any Officer, contact another Officer. Contact the Department Commander or any of the others because they may be more often in contact and will be able to figure out whether something's gone to a spam folder, or the address is wrong as received by you. So that'd be my suggestion. Department Quartermaster.

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: John Wilder Department Quartermaster. My report as Department Quartermaster has been included with my report as JVC.

Department Commander John Dupré: Oh, okay. Brother Secretary, are there any reference of communications?

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Yes, I've got 3 running for office and I don't know how many, how many are going to keep going, but I've got to read them out or at least tell you who they are. Joseph Hall is running for Junior Vice Commander in Chief. He sent a letter out. Brother Benjamin Frail sent one out to run for the National Council administration and I sent one out to run for the Junior Vice Commander in Chief. So, if anybody wishes to see them, they will be up here at the desk, unless somebody wants me to read them. Their resumes and all that kind. We have a letter from project New Hope thanking us for the donation from April the 8th 2024. Looks like that may be it for communications.

Department Commander John Dupré: All right, thank you. So next is unfinished business. What we have, oh, sorry, next will be Camp reports. Start with Camp 5.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: Dexter Bishop Chaplain. Camp 5 can announce that the hall received our funding on May 6. We're all invited to the, we will be sent across the street because the building is already locked up. They are preparing the building for installing an elevator. For 30 years we wanted one, but it's going to happen. So that's basically right now we're meeting our monthly meeting at the Parker Funeral Home. He's a member of our Camp and allowed us to meet. Thank you.

Department Commander John Dupré: Next will be Camp 15.

Brother Nathaniel Knight: Nathaniel Knight Secretary, Camp 15. This past year, three Brothers have passed away. The Camp has held Memorial Day services at Springfield Cemetery and visited the Tifft family plot with eight members in participation. The Camp also participated in the Memorial Day ceremony at Carbon Park Cemetery in Belchertown. Two Brothers cleaned the gravestone of Captain Lewis A Tifft and his wife's gravestone. Three members participated in the gravestone dedication service for Major Thomas W Osborne at Hillside Cemetery in North

Adams. Most recently this spring, the Internal Revenue Service notified the camp that we had restored our 501C4 status, allowing us to now be covered under the current 501C3 status. In this upcoming year, we are looking to do a gravestone dedication service for First Lieutenant Lyman F. Hooker and Sergeant David B Cobourg, Pine Hill Cemetery in Westfield on June 22nd.

Department Commander John Dupré: Next up is Camp 25.

Civil War Memorials Officer Matthew Sargent: Matthew Sargent Commander Camp 25. Willie Grout Camp 25 continues to be successful in its endeavors and currently has 27 members on its rolls. Highlights from the Department year 2023 are outlined below. Flagging in Hope Cemetery happened on the 6th, the 20th and the 21st of May. That is our adopted cemetery in Worcester. That's every year where it gets better and better and a little bit easier. Brother George Maple represented the Camp at the Worcester Water ceremony as part of the city's Memorial Day events, the Sunday before Memorial Day. Jim Pinzino and Richard Lufkin participated in the Memorial Day event at the Bourne National Cemetery in Bourne. Brothers John Dupre, George Maple, Tim Shea, Mark Ziemba participated in Memorial Day events at Hope Cemetery. Brother Ziemba read General Logan's General Order Number 11. Four brothers attended the National Encampment in August in Nashua, NH. Two new Brothers were initiated in October. Father and son Daniel Cole, Daniel and Cole Anderson. In October, on the 20th of October the Camp ran a walking tour of veterans' graves in Hope Cemetery. Much work was done to research all the graves. I think there are 1200 graves of Civil War veterans in our cemetery, and we picked a handful. It was about a 2-hour tour, 2 1/2 hours, maybe a little bit too long. We had twelve members of the Friends of Hope Cemetery attend, so we're hoping to make that a reoccurring thing, maybe shorten the length of time on that. Three brothers attended the Remembrance Day events in Gettysburg, PA in November. We are happy to report that our Charter, the restoration of our original camp Charter is finally approved and moving forward. A lot of hard work by Commander John Dupre on that, and that was also with the help of the Department from a donation to that as well as Brothers of the Camp. That's a multiyear evolution to try to get that completed. In March, we performed a great dedication ceremony for Ira Coté of the First Vermont Cavalry with members of the family present. They had reached out a couple years ago and said that the grave was not visible at all, so they dug it out of the ground. We restored it and finally had a ceremony. In January we had a dinner for our Camp meeting, which was nice, little different. And this year we look forward to a multitude of grave dedications in Rutland, Grafton, Worcester and multiples in Marlborough. This concludes my report.

Department Commander John Dupré: Anyone from Camp 26? Camp 50? Camp 22.

Guide Charles Lewis: Commander Camp 22 has been at the Chelsea Soldiers Home, which is now called the Veterans Home of Chelsea. We have been going through commander, a lot of, I want to use the word turmoil, but we're going to a transition period. The building is called the Quigley Hospital where most of the patients have been evacuated to the new building. They're going to be replaced by some immigrants, I think about 100. But that hasn't dampened our spirit

because Chaplain Dexter Bishop and I was there in the new building to give an initiation ceremony for a new member. We had to cancel because the whole area was with COVID. And we're trying to establish a zoom with Holyoke Soldier Home. Because every month I'm trying to be a master of ceremony, and we discuss various elements of the Civil War and always have a large participation. Everything is now disarrayed and because of it we have a woeful lack of communication because of the transition which we're going through and I am always willing and able work with management and employees with the morale mainly because of the new immigrants coming in. This doesn't dampen our spirit. I have four potential new members. It is just a matter of having them swearing in. That's my report Commander.

Department Commander John Dupré: Thank you. So, Camp 26 no, Camp 50? Camp 54?

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: Rod Fraser Commander, Camp, 54. Also Commander, I'll submit my report as the Clarion Call editor. Right now, I have emails for 129 Brothers in the Department, so I need Brothers' help within your Camps to make sure we get everybody's e-mail. The Clarion Call went on our time four times in the past year. I'd also like to thank Brother Ron Glidden for automatically posting the Clarion Call to the new Department website. So, you can look at it in e-mail or if you want to go back and look at it again, you can go back and look at it online. Colonel Robert Gould Shaw annual report for the Department Encampment. Camp 54 worked hard this year to be active and promote the Sons of Union Veterans and keep green the memory of our gallant Union soldiers who served so selflessly. In the past year we brought in six new Brothers, where we've lost one Brother. We have 4 new brothers who have joined the Camp. Two Brothers transferred in from a New York Camp that closed one Brother was dropped due to nonpayment of dues. Our first delinquent Brother. Most of the things that I reported in my early report as Senior Vice Commander are also in this report. I won't, I won't say those again. However, I would like to bring up one item, one of our brothers, Captain Joseph Nawn, is currently deployed. U.S. Army Captain Joseph Nawn is currently deployed to the area Support Group Jordan, U.S. Army Central and 3rd Army Patton Zone, which is in Amman, Jordan and Brother Nawn sent back to the Camp an American flag that flew over the Joint Training Center Jordan on December 28th, 2023, with a certificate of appreciation from his command. It says "Certifying this American flag was proudly flown with honor as the Joint Forces Garrison flag and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, in support of U.S. military operations in the Middle East and around the world. May this flag serve as a symbol of the proud lineage that connects the sacrifices of fallen Union soldiers in Civil War, the survivors who probably founded the Honorable Grand Army of the Republic and their descendants who continue to answer the nation's call to war. May this flag also serve as a symbol of gratitude to continued and unwavering support of U.S. soldiers, sailors, airmen, guardians and Coast Guardsmen from a grateful nation to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Department of Massachusetts, and Colonel Robert Gould Shaw Camp 54". Very nice to get that flag that was sent back to us. We held our elections in October of 2023. The Officers elected was myself as Camp Commander, Senior Vice Commander Todd Bryda, Junior Vice Commander Ronald Glidden,

Treasurer Donald Denning, Secretary Joshua Hodge, Councilman Joshua Hodge, Daniel Johnson and Kevin Tucker. That is my report.

Department Commander John Dupré: Thank you. Camp 61? Camp 104?

Brother Matthew Ahern: Brother Matthew Ahern, Camp Commander, Camp number 104. Couple things to note, with 104, we have recently moved locations from Wakefield to Concord, MA. We are in the old Concord Armory, which is now the Massachusetts National Guard Museum. It was a good move. It's a great space to meet in there. I welcome any of you Brothers who want to check out that museum to let me know and we can maybe organize something. We have had two transfers into the camp, one new member and then. Some potential other transfers, along with a prospective member as well. We're in good health there. We have supported various events in Concord, including the George Washington Dugan, who was a member of the 54th Massachusetts who was missing in action after the Battle of Fort Wagner. He was given a headstone in Sleepy Hollow, and we helped to spearhead that ceremony. Umm, we are also continuing on with our Wakefield. Cemetery GAR plot restoration. Brother John Wilder has been a great help with that. We've had them, all of our GAR markers, they were all taken in and restored by brother Mark Turechek and John Wilder. Finished almost all of them so almost all of them are now in the ground, which is really great. The last thing I'll mention is that we as a Camp are spearheading a special project in partnership with the Massachusetts National Guard and that has to deal with the delivering of the Massachusetts Minutemen medals of 1861 to descendants of these soldiers. So, a little bit of background on these medals. These medals were struck in 1902 for all soldiers who served in the 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, and 8th Massachusetts who answered Lincoln's call right as the Civil War was beginning. Unfortunately, because they were struck so late, you know, about 40 years later, not a lot of these medals got claimed. So we still have 735 in the Massachusetts National Guard Museum that we're looking to give out to the descendants. So far, we've made contact with 16 descendants from just one company alone. So hopefully once we get this sort of show on the road and start making some progress there, maybe we can open it up to the Department. But right now, it's an exciting project. So that's all I've got.

Department Commander John Dupré: All right, Camp 132? Camp 3188? That concludes Camp reports. I think we'll take a break before we continue with anything.

Brother Ed Norris: Could we get the Council report?

Department Commander John Dupré: We'll get that with the budget. 10 minutes everyone.

Return from Break

Department Commander John Dupré: All right, so next, we're looking for the report from the Department Council, Brother Naughton.

Council Bill Naughton: The Department Council prepared the budget working off of last year's figures and presented it to the Department Officers at the last Department Officers meeting. This

column to the right, the proposed budget is what is what, and what the Officers decided we would make available. So, I don't know how we're going to do this in terms of approval.

Council 1. Kevin Tucker: Do it line by line and ask if there is any discussion.

Brother Edward Norris: Ed Norris, Camp 25. For the last two years, we've been giving money to the Department of New Hampshire as a loan for their National Encampment. How much money did we get back from them?

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: All of it.

Brother Edward Norris: So, we got all of it, and that includes in that $13,000 that you have in the savings.

Council Bill Naughton: I haven't presented the budget yet.

Brother Edward Norris: I want to know how much we actually have.

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: New Hampshire borrowed $2000, and New Hampshire paid back $2000.

Brother Edward Norris: It was only $2000?

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Only two thousand, that's all we borrowed from them.

Brother Edward Norris: OK. So, we heard a proposed income of $43,000. So, we're about $8000 over budget.

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: We've got $18,000 in the checking account.

Brother Edward Norris: Alright, that is all I wanted to know.

Council Bill Naughton: So, I guess somebody, somebody other than an English teacher can keep track of what we end up with. The first item, donation to the Rockland GAR Hall. The proposal is for $1650.

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Daniel Murray, I make a motion that as we go through the budget items line by line that at the sound of the gavel that item is approved.

Unknown: Second

Department Commander John Dupré: Any discussion? All in favor? Motion approved.

Council Bill Naughton: OK. Anything on the first line? The donation to Rockland. Second item donation to Lynn again, 1100 this year.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any discussion? Brother Al.

ROTC Officer Al Smith: I have one question concerning the donation to the Lynn GAR. The building is currently being renovated. It will be at least a year and a half, maybe a year to year

and a half before its usable again. My question is, can we use the $1000 or $1100 donation to the Lynn GAR and reallocate those into Rockland, rather because there's nothing happening? You know reallocated. What is the motion?

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: John Wilder Department, JVC, as we discussed previously, we want to be very distinct that these are donations, not payments for rental or use of these halls. So, I think it's very appropriate that even though the building is under renovation even more purposes in the renovation that we continue making these donations.

Department Commander John Dupre: Anything further? Motion approved.

Council Bill Naughton: Website Hosting for the new department website. $230.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any discussion?

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: I would like to at least point out that last year we spent $313.45 just so people know we went over last year because originally Jack Manning renewed it. And then the Commander got Ron Glidden to redo the website. So, we ended up paying again later on in the year. We actually spent $313.45 but it will be, I guess, around $230. I just wanted people to know we went over last year for one reason.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any further discussion? Motion approved.

Council Bill Naughton: The Department Encampment $3300 dollars.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any discussion? Motion approved.

Council Bill Naughton: Officers meeting for Department Officers, $1650.

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Daniel Murray Department Secretary last year we spent $1315.31. Prices have gone up. Meals I mean, there's just no way of getting around it. It has been $1000 for years so.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any discussion? Motion approved.

Council Bill Naughton: Lincoln birthday brunch looks like a big jump, but it really isn't considering what Dan is going to say.

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Daniel Murray Department Secretary, a few things happened this year. We had to pay the speaker and Harrington's charges a lot more money for the breakfast. I mean, it went from, I think, around $1000 to $1800. That's why the increase. We spent, what did we spend this year on Lincoln's birthday? After you took out the money that came in it was $1101.17 this year, so it's about $400.00 over what we allocated last year.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any further discussion? Motion approved.

Council Bill Naughton: Benjamin Butler ceremony $330.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any further discussion?

Council 1. Kevin Tucker: And that is we buy a flag for Benjamin Butler's cemetery every year in. We had one for free last year, but yeah, we have to buy one this year.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any further discussion? Motion approved.

Council Bill Naughton: Project New Hope $2200 dollars.

Brother Edward Norris: Ed Norris, Camp 25. I understand for Project New Hope we use the $2000 to buy tables and we were going to be reimbursed as those tables were sold. How much money did we get back of the $2000?

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Daniel Murray Department Secretary. There was no dinner, so there was no money back.

Brother Edward Norris: So, we never spent that.

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: We spent $2000. I was directed to make a donation to Project New Hope for $2000.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any further discussion?

Brother Edward Norris: Is there's going to be a dinner this year?

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: I'm hoping so.

Brother Edward Norris: All right,

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: I'm not running it Ed.

Brother Edward Norris: I know.

Council 1 Kevin Tucker: Kevin Tucker Junior Vice Commander in Chief. Annually we have a project New Hope dinner to benefit Project New Hope. So, it's the Department's dinner to benefit project New Hope and we sell tickets and the proceeds of those tickets go to Project New Hope. We did not have a dinner this year, we just donated the $2000. So that's how that, that's how that came about. I would. I would recommend that we have a committee to put that dinner together and maybe Brother Ed will be on the committee.

Department Commander John Dupré: Thank you. Any further discussion? Motion approved.

Council Bill Naughton: The office of Department secretary $550.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any discussion? Motion approved.

Council Bill Naughton: The office of Department Treasurer, $4510. Oh, I'm sorry, $5170.

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: I just wanted everybody to know, Daniel Murray Secretary Treasurer. Last year the annual CPA review was $4000. The tax form preparation was $600.00,

so that was $4600. And then the other would have been there would have been $350 last year for office supplies and we spent less than half of that for office supplies. But the big jump is in the CPA review. It was up over $1500 so that's why it's gone up so much.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any further discussion? Motion approved.

Council Bill Naughton: Officer's travel total comes to $4510 broken down as you see.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any discussion on Officer's travel?

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: Rod Fraser Senior Vice Commander, Commander, can you have the secretary if he has that, I mean the Treasurer if he has that information, how much was actually spent last year on the officer's travel?

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: All but $500. The JVC never put in for any. He's the only one that did not put in for any. I'm just saying everybody else put in. Yeah, $3000.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any further discussion? Motion approved.

Council Bill Naughton: Delegate travel $4400.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any discussion? Motion approved.

Council Bill Naughton: Remembrance Day Gettysburg trip $6600.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any discussion, Brother?

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Daniel Murray, Secretary. I'm the one that organizes the trip. Buses have gone up drastically over the last few years. The cheapest bus I could get this year was, I believe $8000, a little over $8000. They range anywhere from $8000 to $14,000 for the bus. So that's why the cost of the trip is so expensive, and that's why we've increased the budget.

Department Commander John Dupré: Brother Fraser.

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: Rod Fraser Commander, Camp 54. If the buses have gone up to will $6600 be enough to cover the trip.

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Yes, it will, because when we will adjust the prices for the rooms in the trip to charge people to cover the rest.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any further discussion? Motion approved.

Council Bill Naughton: Cemetery flag holders, $2200 worth. Any discussion?

Department Commander John Dupré: Any discussion? Brother Fraser.

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: Commander, before we vote on this line item, do we need to purchase this many flag holders? Is my understanding that the Graves Registration

Officer is sitting on quite a few flag holders and if Camps aren't using them, do we need to make another order? That is my question.

Council Bill Naughton: Bill Naughton Graves Registration Officer. We alternate between buying veterans which we have to have specially made-up and the GAR markers which are a standard stock items from most foundries. We have a considerable number. I've got 100 to deliver this morning. I think we've got to keep it just in case, with a little luck everybody will go out and do graves registration and we'll need the markers.

Department Commander John Dupré: Brother Murray

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Daniel Murray, I believe when we ordered them this year and they just came in. But I just ordered them in the last month, and we were down to around 50 GAR markers, I believe. I think that is what the number was and we ordered 150. He's just getting rid of 100 now. We had plenty of these veteran ones, but the GAR ones just seem to keep going and we spent $1992. That's as cheap as you are going to find anywhere. You can't buy them anywhere else except off a foundry for that kind of money.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any other discussion? Motion approved.

Council Bill Naughton: All right. Color's maintenance and equipment, $330.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any other discussion? OK.

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: I don't know if we should raise it or not, but we spent $418 last year.

Department Commander John Dupré: Brother Tucker.

Council 1 Kevin Tucker: Kevin Tucker Junior Vice Commander in Chief. I just had a conversation with our Color Bearer. There may be an issue with the, he lives at the Veterans Home in Chelsea and they're not allowing him to store the colors in his room anymore. He had to store it in his storage room and seems like somehow the finial, the eagle finial on the federal colors is among the missing. So, he's going to take a look to see if it's around there, but we may have to replace that. I would, I would take Brother Murray suggestion and maybe raise it to $400.00 in case you have to buy another finial.

Department Commander John Dupré: My question is this the one we most recently replaced?

Council 1 Kevin Tucker: Yes.

Department Commander John Dupré: Right, so…..

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: I make a motion that we raise the colors maintenance equipment line to $400.00, but we've offset that by removing $70.00 from another line item.

Department Commander John Dupré: Which line?

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: We could have that discussion right. We would have to find, I would recommend, if we're going to add, that we, my recommendation, we'll add it, but we subtract.

Department Commander John Dupré: Are you making a motion?

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: I did now, I made my motion

Department Commander John Dupré: Is there a second? John Wilder.

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: John Wilder Department, JVC, if the eagle finial is missing, I will donate one. I have an extra one.

Department Commander John Dupré: Do we know that the thread pitch is compatible?

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: I've got the adapter for it.

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: Rod Fraser Commander, Camp, 54. I'd like to withdraw my motion.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any further discussion on Colors maintenance and equipment? Al?

ROTC Officer Al Smith: Al Smith ROTC officer Commander, I make the recommendation to change the storage site from the Chelsea Soldiers home to my home. I pick Charlie up all the time and this morning I picked Charlie up and get the flags from him and change it to my house.

Department Commander John Dupré: Brother Tucker.

Council 1 Kevin Tucker: Kevin Tucker Junior Vice Commander in Chief. **T**here's no designated storage place for the colors. You can store them at your house without even making a motion. Why make a motion when you don't have to. No motion. Take them to your house.

ROTC Officer Al Smith: I make the motion.

Council 1 Kevin Tucker : No motion to take them to your house.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any further discussion on Colors maintenance and equipment? Motion approved.

Council Bill Naughton: Next, the Good of Order the total comes to $7410 and that's a detailed list below that. So, it covers the Chelsea Soldiers home, the Holyoke Soldiers home, Eagle Scouts, ROTC Awards, headstone placement, cleaning, recruiting, genealogy, the Bourne ceremony and then other Good of the Order.

Department Commander John Dupré: Brother Tucker.

Council 1 Kevin Tucker: Through you to Brother Bishop, the Holyoke Soldiers home. I believe that last year it was for a television.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: Yes.

Council 1 Kevin Tucker: What is it for this year?

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: Well, we're trying to get it set up again. They're being rebuilt also now. And so, I am trying to, if you want to take it out, take it out and we'll just go with it because we have a tv for them.

Council 1 Kevin Tucker: And they have a computer there?

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: They have computers, yeah.

Department Commander John Dupré: Brother Rod.

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: Rod Fraser Commander, Camp 54. I make a motion that we remove the Holyoke soldiers home line item but put that amount into the other Good of the Order line item.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any second?

Historian Peter Preble: Second.

Department Commander John Dupré: Discussion. Brother Murray.

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Daniel Murray, Secretary. I am against that, I would just say leave the line item as it is. If you want to move money, we've got plenty of money. We haven't even begun to touch the checking account. We're, on this budget for $8000 into the checking account and we've got $10,000 more to go.

Department Commander John Dupré: Brother Rod.

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: Commander, the issue is that if we're not going to spend it on the Holyoke Soldiers home to buy a TV or anything which Brother Dexter just said, then we don't need that line item. I'm not saying strike it from the budget, I'm saying put it just put it into other Good of the Order because we're not going to spend it at Holyoke. We just decided that we're not spending it Holyoke. Why have a line item for that? We can just put the $550 in the other Good of the Order line. I've said my share.

Department Commander John Dupré: Brother Tucker.

Council 1 Kevin Tucker: So, the reason they keep the line item is that there will be some kind of budget for holding it because we're, we're having programs on both sides. It's just so we don't have to buy a TV. I would leave the line item, but it doesn't have to be spent.

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: I will withdraw my motion.

Department Commander John Dupré: Who seconded?

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Peter.

Department Commander John Dupré: Do you withdraw your second?

Historian Peter Preble: Yes.

Department Commander John Dupré: So, the motion is withdrawn. I have one question, as Commander, ROTC awards the $110 and I can't remember exactly what that's for. Brother Al.

ROTC Officer Al Smith: The $100, it was my idea last year and that I found that the MIT Cadet program is college level like Harvard and a few other schools. The other, the other ROTC Award was a high school. Which would not allow which does not qualify them for anything except for the certificate of recognition. What I was suggesting is that we would authorize $100 scholarship to the MIT cadet program. The only problem with that is, is that if there's more than one awardee at the MIT level, and there's different Army, Navy. Marine Corps, Air Force the whole 9 yards of different services only one person would be allowed to receive it. That's the kind of a clicker to, you know, other military orders. So, I don't know if you wanted to allow it or authorize it or what? But you can only give it the $100 to 1 military organization. And it's unfair for other organizations if they don't qualify either. So, it's a scholarship prize. I'm parked.

Council 1 Kevin Tucker: I move to remove the $110 from the ROTC Award.

Unknown: Second.

Department Commander John Dupré: Now we're open for discussion.

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Daniel Murray, Secretary/Treasurer, I think we should leave it in the ROTC certificate does not come with, with a cover to present it. The quartermaster sells them for five dollars apiece and it's not the glossy ones that they had before, but they're pretty nice ones now. But they're five bucks apiece and I think we should present them in that. At least make it look like you got some class when you do it. Besides you hand them a piece of paper and a bag. That's what a lot of the other organizations do. And this one actually has the drop on it. They're five bucks apiece from the Quartermaster. But that's my two cents.

ROTC Officer Al Smith: The process that I had used for the last year. When I received notification from the school that they have a cadet in mind I refer that to file the Form 7 through the Quartermaster at that time. Present the issue of the, the certificate and the badge because they have the school has to fill out the cadet's name and why they think he's such a great cadet. So we have no say in the matter as far as what the Quartermaster sends out to the various schools.

Department Commander John Dupré: Brother Tucker.

Council 1 Kevin Tucker: So, you can buy some of those folders in advance. And as the quartermaster sends them……

ROTC Officer Al Smith: The program won't do it.

Council 1 Kevin Tucker: The folder, not the award. The folder he is talking about that it comes in and then you can have those on hand when he sends you the paper, you can just stick It in the folder yourself and present it.

ROTC Officer Al Smith: OK.

Department Commander John Dupré: Alright,

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: So, what are we doing?

Council 1 Kevin Tucker: My motion was to, was it a motion?

Department Commander John Dupré: We're voting on the motion presented to remove the $110 line item from ROTC awards. All in favor? All opposed? All in favor stand please? All in favor of removing it. All right, so the line stands. Brother Rod.

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: Rod Fraser Commander, Camp, 54 I would like to make a motion that the ROTC award line item, that that can be used to support the awards program, but not as a scholarship.

Unknown: I'll second.

Department Commander John Dupré: Alright, any further discussion? All in favor? All opposed? That motion stands. Next Item.

Council Bill Naughton: OK, the Traveling Trunk project. Going down the items of Headstone Placement planning.

Department Commander John Dupré: OK, any discussion? Approved.

Council Bill Naughton: Recruiting $550.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any discussion? Approved.

Council Bill Naughton: Genealogy research, $250.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any discussion? Approved.

Council Bill Naughton: Bourne Ceremony, $550.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any discussion? Approved.

Council Bill Naughton: Other Good of the Order, $1110.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any discussion? Approved.

Council Bill Naughton: So, the Traveling Trunk, for $1925.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any discussion?

Brother Edward Norris: Yes

Department Commander John Dupré: Brother Ed.

Brother Edward Norris: Ed Norris Camp 25. So, we said this will be the third year we've had it. Do we act, and I know this, it says up here, spent last year, but this is actually last year's budget. Did we spend any on this last year?

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: No, we did not. I can elaborate if you would like.

Brother Edward Norris: No, I, the other question at the same time was how many schools has this gone out to?

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: Rod Fraser Commander, Camp, 54. We haven't spent any of the money on this line item yet. We have the list of items that would go in the trunk, and we have not, we do not have a curriculum to support those items that we could put with the trunk for the school to use. Trying to find either a brother or high school history teacher or something that would assist us in writing that curriculum. But until we have some course material to go with everything, we can't really move ahead with the project. I did speak to American Battlefield Trust, they have a Civil War travelling truck program and they get a lot of requests from Massachusetts that go unanswered because they only have a few trunks, and they send them all over the country. I think it is still a good project. It's just finding someone who can help by writing curriculum that goes along with all these items in the trunk. That's my answer.

Department Commander John Dupré: Thank you. So, any further discussion? Brother Dexter.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: Dexter Bishop Camp 22, Camp 5. I would just like to volunteer, Dave (unintelligible) is someone I know who might be able to help you out if you would like.

Department Commander John Dupré: Alright, any further discussion? Approved.

Council Bill Naughton: OK, then the Wreaths across America project for $280.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any discussion? Approved.

Council Bill Naughton: The next item is for the Sons history preservation, so that's archives, et cetera.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any discussion? Approved.

Council Bill Naughton: The Department Projects $5555.

Brother Edward Norris: Did you forget to lift your finger off the five?

Council Bill Naughton: Fat fingers little keys. What can I tell you.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any other discussion? Approved

Council Bill Naughton: The next three lines should not be tough. Electronic Bugle bought 1 last year, it was a new item on last year's budget. Allocating nothing for that this year.

Department Commander John Dupré: OK. Any discussion then? Approved

Council Bill Naughton: Next item is a parade banner. This is the same situation here.

Department Commander John Dupré: All right. Any other discussion? Approved

Council Bill Naughton: National Encampment assistance for $2000. That was addressed earlier. Budgeting 0 for this.

Department Commander John Dupré: All right. Approved

Council Bill Naughton: And miscellaneous at the bottom from $550.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any discussion? Approved. Brother Tucker

Council 1 Kevin Tucker: I make a motion that we budget $200 for ads in the National Encampment Booklet. One on behalf of the Department and one on behalf of the National Officers who are candidates, in support of that.

Unknown: I'll second.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any discussion then? Brother Rod.

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: Rod Fraser Camp, 54. Commander, the $200, are we going to do two? That's, a full-page ad is $100. What are we looking to do? 1 full page, 2 full page ads for the booklet.

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Daniel Murray, Secretary/Treasurer. For clarification it came out as $100, it Is now $50 for a full-page ad.

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: OK, because I have the form……

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: I know I thought the same thing and I got corrected last week in Nebraska. Yeah, last week in Nebraska when I was there.

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: So, it is $50.

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: I looked it up and it's $50. They reduced it. I think they made a mistake by jumping up too high.

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: OK. So how are we spending the

$200? I just wanted to know.

Council 1 Kevin Tucker: The Council can decide at the time.

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: OK.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any further discussion? Yeah, all in favor. Motion passed.

Council Bill Naughton: That's the Council's report sir.

Department Commander John Dupré: OK, the next order is unfinished business, streamers.

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Did they procure them? They voted to buy them last year.

Council 1. Kevin Tucker: Who are you guys?

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Oh, Daniel Murray, Secretary/Treasurer. Last year we voted, unfinished business, we voted to purchase streamers for past encampments, four of them at $75 apiece.

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: John Wilder Department Junior Vice Commander. I provided the information that was requested of me in terms of these. I was not in charge of actually purchasing them.

Council 1. Kevin Tucker: Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Tucker. I proposed that Brother John Wilder be put in charge of procuring them.

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: He can just assign them. You don't have to make a motion.

Council 1. Kevin Tucker: OK, I withdraw the motion to speed things up.

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Daniel Murray, Secretary. The plaque on Beacon Hill. That was voted on to look into last year, for unfinished business.

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: Rod Fraser Camp 54. So, we're still working on that. We do not have written approval from the land the landowners for the Beacon St. property to put the plaque on. A Brother from the Camp has been working on that. He met with them; they had said they were in favor of it. So, I told him we have to have something writing because next step we have to go to the City make sure we get approval there. They are going to want to know that it's OK with the landowner. That's on hold until I get something in writing. That's my report.

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: John Wilder Department Junior Vice Commander. As was discussed at last year's Encampment and in conjunction with discussions with the Department Officers, we had formed a committee to direct the funding as approved in the budget to Camp, to support Camp projects. As directed, I have put together a set of guidelines which I am presenting for adoption. These are to regulate first of all, the committee will consist of the Command, Department Commander, Department Senior Vice Commander and Department Junior Vice Commander.

Regulations for the distribution of Department funds for Camp projects. Applications will be submitted by Camps to the Department Senior Vice Commander and then reviewed by the project's committee, which consists of Department Commander, Department Senior Vice

Commander and Department Junior Vice Commander. Camps may submit one request per year. Requests can be made for up to 50% of the total cost. Request should be in writing with a formal presentation which should include background, historical and current relevance, plan of work to be accomplished, financial plan, including the budget and the necessary quotes and any fundraising plans. Timeline of the work to be accomplished, involvement of other groups and photos. Project committee by majority vote may approve the allocation of any amount up to the requested amount. They may also request further information be provided before the decision is made. Presentation by the Camp of proposal and the vote by the Project's Committee may make their proposal anytime during the year, either at a Camp or Department meeting or through electronic communication. Upon approval, funds may be received by the Camp and then will provide regular progress updates and financial records upon request. Proportional recognition will be extended to the Department as a whole for their contributions and invitations will be extended to the Department in any public dedications or recognitions related to the project. Appropriate use of funds includes projects related to public memorials related to the Civil War, GAR or SUVCW, grave markers, and plots related to people associated with the Civil War GAR or SUVCW and preservation of publicly accessible archival documents or artifacts related to the Civil War, GAR or SUVCW.

In summary. We put this together because there's been plenty of discussion in the past few years of Camps who want to be active with projects. We want Camps to be working on things that are in our mission as an organization. It started over Covid when we had the surplus, and we supported some Camps in that and to make that an ongoing official thing. There is money that was approved in the budget. Some of it is allocated already, but we want to support Camps as they go forward. We just want to make sure that they're being done for the right things. If any of you are involved in scouting most of this project plan is based off an Eagle Scout project, so it's all it's all very straightforward. Just to make sure everything is done correctly. We will only approve, as I said, up to 50% because you know, everybody's got to have skin in the game. So, we're not, you know, this is your project. We can't carry you all the way, but you know we, we definitely want to help out.

Department Commander John Dupré: OK, so we will entertain a motion to adopt the proposed regulations.

Council 1. Kevin Tucker: So, made.

Unknown : I'll second.

Department Commander John Dupré: All right, motion and a second, any discussion?

Brother Edward Norris: Ed Norris Camp 25. I think it's missing a few things. One, we don't have how we're going to notify the Camps of this. We don't have a due date of when the submissions have to be made. So, you don't want somebody submit one tomorrow and have them get 50% automatically. We also don't have a budget for it.

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: Oh, that, that was the line item for the Department projects.

Brother Edward Norris: OK. So, I think we need 2 dates.

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: John Wilder Department JVC. If I may respond, the idea since this is a standing committee. This is not, you know, this is anytime a Camp is working on a project, they can come to us and, and request support of the Department. This isn't a wait for Department Encampment each year, because we want to make sure it's expedient.

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: Rod Fraser Senior Vice Commander. Commander, I would like to make an addition or an amendment to this, that the Camp requesting funds must, for the Camp requesting funds for project must make this proposal in person at Department Encampment.

Unknown: Second.

Department Commander John Dupré: All right, so now so, so now discussion on the amendment to the original proposal on the regulations, Brother Wilder.

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: The entire idea behind creating this committee and creating these guidelines is so the Camp doesn't have to wait for the Department Encampment. If a Camp starts the project next week, they have to wait for next year to ask for funding. That puts a major delay on, on something that may be time sensitive.

Department Commander John Dupré: Brother Tucker.

Council 1. Kevin Tucker: Kevin Tucker Junior Vice Commander in Chief. I agree with Brother Wilder. I think that the committee, within the guidelines that are set, can decide how much of the money is going to be allocated for each individual thing. I don't believe that the committee would say you can have all the entire budget on the first couple of go rounds. I think we could leave that up to the committee and that would be their job to determine.

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: Rod Fraser Commander of Camp 54. My beef is this right? We we're here but we have camps that never come to Encampment, and if you can't come to Encampment and support the Department, then we should not give you any funding for any of your projects. If you don't want to be part of the Department. Then, then why should we allocate money to your project if you don't even show up in person. Not one member of your Camp. That's why I made that amendment.

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: John Wilder Department JVC. Well, that is the whole idea of having this committee being the Department Commander, SVC, and JVC, where you know the Commander apparent elect being yourself would be heading that committee. Is that we would be, the determination nothing is automatic. The idea is it has to be brought to, to us and we decide up to 50% of their money. So, it is perfectly reasonable for the committee to say that

you know we don't feel this project is appropriate or you know we would we question, you know the Camp standing in the Department or something like that. It's I think that is all covered by who is on this committee. Thank you.

Council 1. Kevin Tucker: Kevin Tucker Junior Vice Commander in Chief. I understand the sentiment of Brother Rod's feelings; however, we have to remember that, you know, ultimately, it's the work that's being done in question. Not if they behave, they can't behave themselves. They can do something nice for veterans. We should always be doing something nice for veterans, so I would not use it as a punishment, withholding funds. I would encourage the Camps to come to these, as you all have made it. It's not really part of what they're what they're proposing is denying funds to anybody. I understand the sentiment of it, but I would disagree with that.

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: John Wilder Department JVC. I would also add that I would say that it's an enticement where if you have a Camp that is not actively involved in Department, but they are actively involved, involved locally and said we said yes, you can come to us for support. And we do that as an opportunity to bring them back into the fold and to make bring, you know, make us visible as a department with them, working with them and that would encourage them to be back involved with us.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any further discussion on the motion?

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Daniel Murray, Secretary. I would suggest a date, I don't know, June, July to submit. Because then you could at least divide it up, the money. I mean, what happens if only one Camp sends it in, then another one doesn't do it till next March. You're going to hold that money. I mean, at least you get a chance to get some of it out there and if you got 5 Camps looking for an amount of money, you can divide it up between the five Camps if they're within the time limits. If there's any money left over, then the other Camps can have whatever they want. But I think there's got to be some kind of a mechanism so that it doesn't all go to 1 camp because you're up to 50% guide as a project for $5000. We give him $2500, then there's no money for any other camp that to come along later. Just my two cents.

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: John Wilder Department JVC. I would support a date for a, if we could call it an initial round of submittals with the idea being if a project did come up later on, we could look at it anyway and say this needs to wait. But I would support a generalized date with enough time, perhaps somewhere in the summer might be appropriate.

Department Commander John Dupre: Brother Knight.

Brother Edward Knight: Edward Knight Camp15, I make a motion to move the question.

Unknown: Second.

Department Commander John Dupré: We need to vote on this, moving to question. All in favor of moving. Passes. Now we're going to vote on the amendment. Restate the amendment.

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: That the Camp requesting funds for their project must make this proposal in person at Department Encampment.

Department Commander John Dupré: All in favor? All opposed. The motion does not pass. OK. The original……

Brother Edward Norris: Edward Norris Camp 25. I'd like to amend this. That notification goes out by May 1st and that no money be given out till July 1. So that gives Camps two months to plan what they might want to do. Then we could certainly accept stuff afterward, but it at least gives the Camps two months to plan.

Unknown: Second.

Department Commander John Dupré: All right, any discussion on the current amendment? All in favor? All opposed? Motion passes. Two dates, notification date May 1st and then and no money until July 1st. So now the vote will be for the amended motion for regulation for the distribution of Department grants for Camp projects. All in favor? Any opposed? That passes. That's it for unfinished business.

Brother Edward Norris: Edward Norris Camp 25. So, this is probably a good thing we should be doing. Instead of us voting on this every year, I would suggest that the incoming Department Commander form a Bylaw committee and incorporate this report into our Bylaws. So that is just a suggestion.

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Daniel Murray, Secretary. I have something to say against it. If you go down the road for five years and you decide you don't want this committee anymore and you don't want to put any money into it, then you've got to go back and you've got to put a revision in the bylaws. In the meantime, he can appoint any committee he wants every year, a temporary committee. Why mess with the bylaws if we don't have to?

Brother Edward Norris: That is a suggestion.

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: I'm just saying why I don't think it's a good suggestion.

Department Commander John Dupré: OK, adjourning for lunch. Brother Rod.

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: Rod Fraser Senior Vice Commander, Commander We still have the work of the committees that you appointed earlier. The Credential Committee hasn't reported in and neither has the Committee on Resolution. The Resolution Committee and the Credential Committee has not reported yet.

Department Commander John Dupré: Are they prepared to report? Alright, so anyone who hasn't turned in a credential card, they need to do that during break, and then those committees will report after lunch. We'll move to the initiation of a new Brother from Camp 54.

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: Commander for the purposes of initiation, I'd like to serve as the guide instead of Brother Charles.

Department Commander John Dupré: Agreed. Guide, present the candidate to the altar.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: You are now at the Altar of the Order of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War for obligation, and I assure you that in taking this obligation, it will not conflict with any duty you may owe your God, your country, or yourself. If you are willing to proceed, place your left hand on the Bible. You will now grasp the standard of the Flag with your right hand, say "I", pronounce your name, and repeat after me:

Brother Joseph Davis: I, Joseph May Davis the Third

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: In the presence of the great creator.

Brother Joseph Davis: In the presence of the great creator.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: And witnessing Members of this Camp.

Brother Joseph Davis: And witnessing Members of this Camp.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: Hereby.

Brother Joseph Davis: Hereby.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: voluntarily and solemnly pledge myself

Brother Joseph Davis: voluntarily and solemnly pledge myself.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: to support and defend.

Brother Joseph Davis: to support and defend.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: the government of the United States of America.

Brother Joseph Davis: the government of the United States of America.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: to offer my life.

Brother Joseph Davis: to offer my life

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: if need be, to preserve the flag.

Brother Joseph Davis: if need be, to preserve the flag.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: from being lowered in defeat.

Brother Joseph Davis: from being lowered in defeat.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: to always observe the day.

Brother Joseph Davis: to always observe the day.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: set aside by the Grand Army of the Republic.

Brother Joseph Davis: set aside by the Grand Army of the Republic.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: as Memorial Day

Brother Joseph Davis: as Memorial Day.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: sacred to the memory

Brother Joseph Davis: sacred to the memory

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: of the Union soldiers, sailors and marines.

Brother Joseph Davis: of the Union soldiers, sailors and marines.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: of 1861 to 1865.

Brother Joseph Davis: of 1861 to 1865.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: and do all in my power.

Brother Joseph Davis: and do all in my power.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: to persuade others.

Brother Joseph Davis: to persuade others.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: To do the same.

Brother Joseph Davis: The do the same.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: to be faithful,

Brother Joseph Davis: to be faithful.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: in all duties of citizenship.

Brother Joseph Davis: in all duties of citizenship.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: to be obedient to the law of the land

Brother Joseph Davis: to be obedient to the law of the land.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: to obey the constitution and regulations of this order.

Brother Joseph Davis: to obey the constitution and the regulations of this order.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: and to promote actively.

Brother Joseph Davis: and to promote actively.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: it's objects and interests.

Brother Joseph Davis: Its objects and interests.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: always and everywhere,

Brother Joseph Davis: always and everywhere.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: so help me God.

Brother Joseph Davis: so help me God.

Department Commander John Dupré: Guide, present the candidate at the Commander's station. I now show you the Badge of our Order. The inscription, "Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War," reminds us of our high estate and our duty to our Country. We are the Sons of Union Veterans. May we prove ourselves worthy of this title. The ribbon is a union of red, white, and blue, the colors of our Country's Flag. The red signifies the unstinted streams of blood, shed that the blessings of a free government might be our heritage, and that our own blood is pledged to preserve the freedoms and responsibilities we so gladly received. The blue tells us of that true faith and allegiance which our forefathers held to their Country and to each other, and charges us to be mindful of their example. The white represents peace, which with honor, may our Country always enjoy. The motto, "Preserved by the Grace of God," reminds us that without the over-ruling hand of an all-wise Providence, the sacrifices of our forefathers could have afforded nothing, and that God's favor alone can secure the preservation of our liberties. Like the eagle, may we be quick to discover our Country's needs, strong in its defense and swift to carry out the objectives of our Order. May you wear your badge long and proudly, and may it always be a guiding star to you, in the discharge of your duties in private life and as a Son of a Union Veteran of the Civil War. Whenever the United States Flag is passing or being passed in a formal matter, as on parade, members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War not in military uniform will salute the flag by removing their hat or cap. The head dress will be held in the right hand opposite the left shoulder, right forearm against the breast. When not wearing a head cover, the right hand will be placed over the heart. This will not apply when the Flag is flying from a staff, but only when supported by a color bearer. When giving the pledge of allegiance, stand with the right hand over the heart. Members of Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War who are United States Armed Forces veterans may render a hand salute. On all occasions when the National Anthem, the "Star Spangled Banner", is played or sung, members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War should stand at attention, with hat or cap removed. Members of Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War who are United States Armed Forces servicemen or veterans may render a hand salute. On all occasions when the National Anthem, the "Star Spangled Banner," is played or sung, members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War should stand at attention, with hat or cap removed. When seeking admission into a Camp of Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, in case the Camp is in session, you will present your membership card to the Guard at the door when he responds to your knock of three raps at the door. On being admitted approach the Altar and salute the Commander, and on return of the salute take your seat. On rising to speak salute and say "Commander." and in crossing the floor

always pass in the rear of the Altar. One rap calls the Camp to order and seats the same when standing; two raps calls the Officers and staff to their feet; three raps calls up the entire Camp. If deep in your heart there lives the love of freedom, and patriotic devotion to the principles and institutions for which your forefather fought, then no personal danger, no selfish consideration, can quench that love and make you ungrateful or disloyal to the Flag of the United States of America. Let us then entwine each thread of its glorious fabric around our hearts, and catching the spirit that breathes upon us from the battles and the victories of America's sons, let us resolve that now and forever will we stand for that flag and the principles and institutions is symbolizes. It was waved over our cradles. Let us make the high resolve that, unchanged and unstained as it came from the hands of our fathers, it shall wave over our graves. Guide, conduct the candidate to the Secretary's desk to sign the Camp's Membership Book and present him again to this station. Officers and Brothers, I take great pleasure in introducing Brother Joseph May Davis the Third, bound to us by the sacred ties of Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty. Let us give him a Brotherly welcome.

Department Commander John Dupré: So now we're going to break for lunch.

LUNCH RECESS

Department Commander John Dupré: Report of the credentials committee.

Brother Edward Norris: Edward Norris Camp 25. So, we have from Camp 5, 3 delegates. From Camp 15 we have 1 Delegate, 1 Camp Commander, in 22 we have 1 Camp Commander, 1 Past Department Commander. 25 One Camp Commander, 2 PDC's. 54 1 Camp Commander, 1 Past Camp Commander and 2 Delegates and 104, 3 Past Camp Commanders 3 Past Department Commanders, 1 Camp Commander and one Delegate for a total count of 21 votes.

Department Commander John Dupré: Brother Fraser.

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser : Rod Fraser Senior Vice Commander, Camp Commander Camp 54. I make a motion that the Encampment, the Department Encampment accept new member Joseph M Davis as a Delegate from Camp 54.

Unknown: Second.

Department Commander John Dupré: All in favor? Motion passes. Which brings the total votes to 22.

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: Right. And that adds one more delegate to Camp 54?

Department Commander John Dupré: All right. So, then we'll move on to the resolution committee.

Brother Ronald Glidden: Ronald Glidden Camp 54. The Resolution Committee recommends the resolution as written.

Department Commander John Dupré: Thank you. Brother Rod.

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: I'd like to change the language to amend National Organizational Policy to expand the scope for the Monuments and Memorial Grants.

Department Commander John Dupré: You want to talk about? The resolution is an automatic motion.

GAR Highway Officer George Maple: George Maple Camp 25, I think we should add SUVCW to the language in the resolution. As it stands right now what we did in Camp 25 would not be included in that because it was our Sons of Veterans charter that we got restored. So as an amendment, I'd like a friendly amendment to add SUVCW to the documents.

Unknown: Second.

Department Commander John Dupré: All right, any discussion?

Council 1. Kevin Tucker: Kevin Tucker Junior Vice Commander in Chief. So, it says Sons of Veterans not SUVCW.

GAR Highway Officer George Maple: No, the charter we restored was a Sons of Veterans one which would not be included in that document.

Council 1. Kevin Tucker: So, you want to include Sons of Veterans not SUVCW?

GAR Highway Officer George Maple: We also had an SUVCW charter.

Council 1. Kevin Tucker: But you already had that on there, right SUVCW?

GAR Highway Officer George Maple: No, Sons of Veterans, Sons of Union Veterans, and Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Department Commander John Dupré: That is my understanding.

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: So, they went from Sons of Veterans USA to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. That was in 1921 or 22.

Department Commander John Dupré: Brother Wilder.

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: John Wilder Department JVC. The usage of the SUVCW is known to include its predecessor organizations.

Department Commander John Dupré: So, the vote is to add that language. All in favor? Any opposed? Motion passed. Now we vote on the amended resolution, all in favor? Any opposed? Motion passes.

Department Commander John Dupré: So, now we come to New Business.
All right, so this General Order Number Two Amendment Series 2023-2024, 10 August 2023. The General Order on Membership Qualifications Ratification. The 142nd National

Encampment of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War passed the following change to the SUVCW Constitution, which must be ratified by more than 50% of the Departments.

Recommendation 1: The Constitution of the Order is hereby amended as follows: Article III, Eligibility to Membership, is hereby amended to read as follows: All male descendants, for the purpose of this Constitution, and all Regulations, Orders, and other official acts of the National Organization; Departments and Camps "male" is defined as a person who was biologically male at birth, whether through lineal or collateral lineages specified in Article VII of this Constitution who are blood relatives of Soldiers, Sailors, Marines or members of the Revenue Cutter Service, who were regularly mustered and served honorably in, and were honorably discharged from, or died in the service of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps or Revenue Cutter Service of the United States of America or such State regiments as were called into active service and were subject to orders of United States general officers, during the War of the Rebellion between April 12, 1861 and April 9, 1865; who have never been convicted of any infamous or heinous crime; and who have, or whose ancestors through whom membership is claimed have, never voluntarily borne arms against the Government of the United States of America shall have eligibility to membership.

Recommendation 2: The Constitution of the Order is hereby amended as follows: Article VII, Sec on 2, Subsections (a) and (b) are hereby amended to read as follows: Section 2. Associates. There shall be two classes of Associates. 1. Associates are males, a person who was biologically male at birth at least fourteen (14) years of age who do not meet the blood relative qualifications stipulated in Article III of this Constitution and Section 5 of the Articles of Incorporation but otherwise meet the requirements of membership established by the National Organization. 2. Junior Associates are males being a person who was biologically male at birth, at least six (6) years of age but less than fourteen (14) years of age who do not meet the blood relative qualifications stipulated in Article III of the Constitution and Section 5 of the Articles of Incorporation but otherwise meet the requirements for membership established by the National Organization.

Recommendation 3: The Constitution of the Order is hereby amended as follows: Article VII, Membership, is hereby amended to add a new Section 6 to read as follows: Section 6. A Brother who has been duly elected to membership in the Order shall not be subsequently disqualified from membership or be discharged from the Order solely because of that brother's change in gender or sexual identification.

Recommendation 4: The Regulations of the Order are hereby amended as follows: Chapter III, Article X, Junior Associates, Section 2 is hereby amended to read as follows: Section 2. Junior Associates shall be a person who was biologically male at birth, at least six (6) years of age but less than fourteen (14) years of age who do not meet ancestor service (blood relative) qualifications stipulated in Article III on the Constitution and Section 200303 of the Articles of

Incorporation but otherwise meet the requirements for membership established by the National Organization.

Recommendation 5, 1. A couple of paragraphs have been redacted. 2. All Departments will see that this General Order is disseminated throughout. There cannot be any changes made to the items presented as this is the wording accepted by the 142nd National Encampment. It is strictly a For or Against Ratification vote. 3. Once the vote has been taken the Department Commander through the Department Secretary will notify IN WRITING the Commander-in-Chief and the National Secretary of the result of said vote. As soon as 51 percent of the Departments ratify these changes will be in effect.

So Ordered on the 10th Day of August 2023 Respectfully, In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty, Peter J. Hritsko Jr, Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Council 1. Kevin Tucker: I move that the, the General Order 2 be adopted by this Department.

Brother Edward Norris: I make a motion that this becomes a secret ballot.

Department Commander John Dupré: Do we have a second on either motion?

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: I'll second the secret ballot.

Brother Edward Norris: We have to vote on it no matter what.

Department Commander John Dupré: That is true. So, the current vote is on the secret ballot.

Brother Edward Knight: Did the original motion get a second?

Council 1. Kevin Tucker: It doesn't need one because it's a general order. You don't need a motion.

Unknown: First, we need paper.

Department Commander John Dupré: Well, first we need to vote. We're going to vote for a secret ballot for the vote on the change to the article. Discussion?

ROTC Officer Al Smith: Why do we need a paper ballot?

Council 1. Kevin Tucker: Kevin Tucker Junior Vice Commander in Chief. Because of where it's politically sensitive, some brothers may not want to announce their political leanings, so therefore a secret ballot in order to protect. That's why.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any other discussion? All in favor? Any opposed? We will have a secret ballot. You will write for or against. Brother Redmond from Maine and Richard Nichols, would you count the ballots and report on the outcome?

Council 1. Kevin Tucker: Charlie, will you go around with your hat and collect them all in your hat. Would you bring that to Commander Redmond there in the corner? And if you go with him, just go to the back of the room and count them and you can each verify each other's account. That's you, Richard Nichols.

Brother Richard Nichols: I have to verify?

Council 1. Kevin Tucker: Yeah, you have to verify because you know those guys from Maine are…….

Department Commander John Dupré: All right, Brothers, while they're counting, one of the things we should be having later today is a door prize put together by camp 25. So, what we want is for everyone to put their name on one of these slips and we'll put all the names in a hat.

Brother Richard Nichols: Are we ready, Sir?

Department Commander John Dupré: Yes.

Brother Richard Nichols: We've got 14 for and 8 against.

Department Commander John Dupré: The motion passes. Any other new business?

Brother Edward Knight: Edward Knight Camp, 15. I'm approaching this encampment because my secretary Joe Nadeau has been serving the Camp faithfully in the role of Secretary Treasurer since 2012. He has served faithfully that entire time, and Camp 15 is requesting. That we be allowed to present him with Past Camp Commander honors. I make that as a motion

Unknown: Second.

Department Commander John Dupré: I think that's automatic.

Brother Edward Knight: I was told I had to bring it to Encampment.

Department Commander John Dupré: All right, we'll do it. Any discussion? All in favor? Unanimous.

Council 1. Kevin Tucker: He cannot wear the badge. You understand that.

Brother Edward Knight: I do now.

Department Commander John Dupré: Yeah, that's the honors, but not the badge. OK, any other new business? Alright, so next is the nomination of Department officers. So, taking nominations for Department Commander, are there any nominations? Brother Tucker.

Council 1. Kevin Tucker: I nominate for Commander, Brother Rod Fraser who has been the Senior Vice Commander of the Department, also Camp Commander of Camp 54.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any other nominations? Any other nominations? Any other nominations?

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: I would like to make a motion that the secretary cast 1 ballot for all uncontested races.

Brother Edward Norris: I second.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any discussion? All in favor? It passes. Next nomination is for Senior Vice Commander. Are there any nominations? Brother Rod.

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: I would like to nominate brother John Wilder past Camp Commander, Camp 104 and current Junior Vice Commander of this Department.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any other nominations? Any other nominations? Any other nominations? Brother Wilder will you serve.

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: I suppose so.

Department Commander John Dupré: All right. Next is nominations for Junior Vice Commander. Are there any nominations? Brother Wilder.

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: John Wilder Department JVC. It is my honor to stand before you to nominate a brother who has been a member since 2013, a member of Camp 25 where he served as Secretary / Treasurer, Camp 61, where he was Chaplain and Senior Vice Commander as well as a member of Camp 50. He then went on to help found and to be a charter member and the first Commander of Camp 54. He served as Department Chaplain from 2014 to 2022, National Chaplain from 2019 to 2021, Department historian since 2015, where he has made incredible great strides to formalize our archives by doing endless unseen hours behind the scenes work on this project. He is a US Army veteran, currently serves in the National Guard, and he was also deployed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic as part of the Massachusetts organized militia, as well as Chaplain to many other groups. Not only to mention he also has already has a fantastic working relationship with the Commander elect and SVC elect. It is my honor to place in nomination Brother Reverend Peter Michael Preble.

Department Commander John Dupré: Brother Preble, if elected will you serve?

Historian Peter Preble: Yes.

Department Commander John Dupre: Any other nominations?

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Commander, it's my honor to nominate Brother Edward Knight. Brother Edward Knight has been a member of L.A. Tifft Camp 15, Department of Massachusetts, since 1997. He was recruited as the Camp bugler, and he has served as the Camp Commander since 2007. He previously served as Department of Massachusetts Civil War Memorials and Grave Registration Officer, Eagle Scout certificate coordinator, Color Bearer, and bugler for many years. He's also been the bugler for many Department events when called upon. He previously served as Department Junior Vice Commander and Senior Vice Commander. He has served on two National Encampment committees and many Department

Encampment committees. He spent 35 years with the United States Postal Service as a rural carrier and union steward and 38 years with Belchertown Fire department. He has served in town government and is currently chair for both the War Memorial Committee and the Conservation Commission for over 20 years. He is descended from John Carter Delvey of the 27th Massachusetts Infantry and General Abner Doubleday. He helped fundraise over $50,000 to help restore the Civil War Memorial in Belchertown. He played taps at Bourne National Cemetery on June 6th, 2006, for the six Unknown soldiers of the First Massachusetts, when they were brought back. I would like to place in nomination the name of Edward Knight.

Department Commander John Dupré: Brother Knight if elected will you serve?

Brother Edward Knight: Yes, I will.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any other nominations? Any other nominations? Any other nominations?

Council 1. Kevin Tucker: I move that we go to secret ballot on this.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any second?

Brother Edward Norris: I second.

Department Commander John Dupré: Discussion on secret ballot? All in favor. That was unanimous.

Council 1. Kevin Tucker: So, you are going to write on it either Preble or Knight. Right and then you're going to fold it in half so we can't see the writing.

Department Commander John Dupré: Commander Redmond, will you count, and Brother Naughton will you count the ballots when they're collected?

Council 1 Kevin Tucker: Charlie when you are done will you pass the hat again and take it down to those gentlemen at the back. There should be 23.

While they're counting how about this, who here has been a Camp Commander? Raise your hand. Who's been a Department Commander? Who's gone through Memorial University? Do you see what the issue is, you have to know how to run the organization. So, if you're in a leadership position, Memorial University has several sections but go through the SUVCW section; it teaches you about the Constitution and Regulations. I'm going to try to make it a mandatory requirement for Department Commanders at this next Encampment, but get a head start on that. It's really worth the experience. It's a course and it's an open book test and it really gets you up on what's going on. So, I'd highly recommend that to everybody.

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: Have they improved it because it's not very user friendly

Council 1 Kevin Tucker: Yeah, when they first started, it was a disaster. It's far better now, far better. So easy enough and they have several courses. They have U.S. history, they have all kinds of stuff, but the one you want is the SUVCW one. I'd recommend it.

Unknown: Brother Tucker, any idea how long it would take to do that? I mean, are we looking at a couple hours?

Council 1 Kevin Tucker: Yes, I would give a couple of it depends how much of the researcher you are, but the average person could do it in, I can't even, so I took the original one which was tedious, and I don't think it took me an hour, yeah. I highly recommend it, and I think it's important that, you know, I've been through a lot of Camp meetings and Department meetings where the leadership didn't know exactly how to do things and so, or exactly what the rules were. So, this is a big one.

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: You get a shiny lapel pin.

Council 1 Kevin Tucker: You're right you get a nice little thing for your lapel if you pass and a certificate. Given to you by the Commander in Chief.

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Well, while we've got a captive audience, I'm just gonna plug it one last time. For anybody that's not a life member, supposedly they're going to change the dues again this year. They should have been changed two years ago when they upped everybody's dues from 23 to $33. They've never changed the life membership dues, and they brought a table in to do it. If any of you have the 23 proceedings it is towards the back. There is 2 pages, one shows the new membership or the new proposal and then the old one, what the old one is. If you are between the ages of 41 and 85, it would behoove you to get life membership now. If you're younger than that or older than that, then you're going to make out under the new system. You can't be an associate, this is for lineage members, and you can't be a junior.

Council 1 Kevin Tucker: All right, here we go

Commander Redmond: We counted them, and it came to 9 for Knight and it came to 15 for Peter Preble for a total of 24.

Department Commander John Dupré: Peter Preble is elected Junior Vice Commander. The next office is Secretary/ Treasurer.

Brother Edward Norris: Secretary should be separate.

Department Commander John Dupré: OK. All right, so the next office would be secretary.

Council 1 Kevin Tucker: I nominate John Dupre as Department secretary. If elected, will you serve?

Department Commander John Dupré: Yes, I will. Any other nominations? Any other nominations? Any other nominations? All right next would-be treasurer. Brother Tucker.

Council 1 Kevin Tucker: I nominate John Dupre as treasurer. Will you serve?

Department Commander John Dupré: With some trepidation yes I will. Any other nominations, any other nominations? Any other nominations? Nominations for one open seat on the council. Any nominations?

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: Commander, I'd like to nominate Brother Bill Naughton.

Department Commander John Dupre: If elected will you serve?

Council Bill Naughton 3: Yes, I will.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any other nominations? Any other nominations? Any other nominations?
So next would be elections for delegates.

Council 1 Kevin Tucker: Before you start may I say something?

Department Commander John Dupré: Yes.

Council 1 Kevin Tucker : So, if you think you're going to go to National and you're not a Past Department Commander or Past National Commander in Chief, raise your hand. Because we need to fill all 8 even if you don't go. We can't put an alternate in, if you're not elected. We need eight names. So, Rod, he'll be the Department Commander, He automatically gets in.

Department Commander John Dupré: Nominations for Delegate to the National Encampment. Raise your hand.

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Matthew Ahern, Gerard Hayes, Ronald Glidden, Nathaniel Knight, Richard Cultrera, James Doran, Al Smith, Joseph Davis.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any other nominations? Any other nominations? Any other nominations? Brother Tucker.

Council 1 Kevin Tucker: I make a motion that all Members in good standing at the time of the Encampment be elected as alternates.

Unknown: Second.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any discussion? All those in favor?
We are taking a break.

Break.

Department Commander John Dupré: Places everyone. I would like to recognize Brother Rod.

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: Rod Fraser Commander Camp 54. To the Department Commander, I would like to announce that, having been elected to Department Commander, I now officially resigned my position as Camp 54 Commander and turn that position over to my Senior Vice Commander Brother Todd Bryda.

Department Commander John Dupré: Thank you. We're going to do Good of the Order next. So, does anyone have anything for Good of the Order? Brother Tucker.

Council 1 Kevin Tucker: Thank you Brother Commander. So, these are the agenda items that the Commander in Chief has asked me to go over. The next national encampment will be in Lexington, KY, July 30th to August 4th. It will be at the Campbell House, 1375 Broadway, Lexington. The Encampment consists of an Encampment tour which consists of a distillery and brewery tour, followed by a trip to Camp Nelson, named for General Bull Nelson. Camp Nelson was a fortified depot which evolved into a training Center for the United States Colored Troops. The tour will be $50 per person and lunch will be available at the distillery for $9 to $13. Some of our forms are being, at National, are being processed Form 27, Form 3, Oh I'm sorry process, they're in the process of being updated. That's what I meant to say. Form 27, Forms 3 and 35 and I think Form 49 is finished now. There is an issue with our national website. We just signed a contract last year to extend the Drupal people, that's the name of the company, and then they filed for bankruptcy earlier this year. So, we've, we're into it for about $50,000 plus the extended contract. Drupal is saying that they're not going out of business. They're just reorganizing. Obviously, we have everybody in the world looking at that as they go along. If that were to happen, if they are, if they do go out of business, then we have to find somebody to take over. Hopefully not reinvent the wheel again but take over and which means we need their code, which is what we, is what one of the conditions of extending them is that we get their code. I'm not sure that that happened in time for the bankruptcy, so we'll see what happens.

Unknown: Is it a tic toc company?

Council 1 Kevin Tucker: It is not a tick tock company. There's a website, this is Web developer. Next Saturday we have our annual Civil War remembrance in Charlestown, MA. I sent out an e-mail to everybody in the SVR, and I'm mentioning it to you folks here that we need people. I've had one person respond. We need people for next Saturday, so Dexter will be running it. I won't be, I'll be in Texas. But if you get a chance, if you're going to go, please let Dexter know if you're able to show up. Please mention it to your Camp if you talk to anybody there. It's quite important. We don't want to give this up. Along with the ceremony that we do, so they do, they start at the VFW, sorry, the American Legion Hall. They do necrology for everybody in the Civil War that passed away in Charlestown. Then we go to the training ground, which has this magnificent monument, Civil War monument, do a wreath laying ceremony and then they have a meal after that. A free meal for everybody that participates. So it's not a bad take in. There's parking around the monument or you can park down the street at the Whole Foods Department and walk over.

Unknown: What time is it at?

Council 1 Kevin Tucker: It is at, Dexter knows.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: One o'clock.

Council 1 Kevin Tucker: One o'clock.

Department Commander John Dupré: I would say I went last year, it rained, so they didn't do the outside portion, but it was a very, very good time. Very well organized and very respectful.

Council 1 Kevin Tucker: So that is on the 4th. Anybody who's not sure, is anybody else signed up for the National Society of Daughters of the Union ceremony in New Bedford. So that's going to be the 17th of May and again, the Daughters showed up in force at our Lincoln Brunch. We'll try to return the favor. They're looking for a color guard, not a lot of people, still looking for a color guard for the ceremony for William Carney, who was the African American, that was that committed, that did commit, that had the first act for which the Medal of Honor was given. It's the namesake of their Camp or their or whatever they call it, and it's an important ceremony for them. And then the next day they're having their Convention, they call it a Congress, and they're asking if we can bring in the colors for that So we need 2 two different or could be the same, but we need two different events we need to have manned. So, if you're able to please come out, we need you know, color bearers and some rifles. All we need a really 4 to 6 people for both events. So, if you can, whatever you can do for that would be appreciated. And then in June on Saturday, June 8th, the Goose Hill Cemetery in Rutland, MA, we have a rededication of the headstone Private Hugh Cook and we're looking for people to attend that. And that's at 12:00 to about 2:00. And I'll send reminders out on that. The SVR site and on the Department website. So, on the 26th of May will be Bourne National Cemetery so that's our Memorial Day observance as a Department. We generally lead the parade into the Cemetery the Commander in Chief, I'm sorry, the Department Commander will read General Order 11, and we do a ceremony with the other veterans organizations and then there are 7 unknowns buried in that cemetery and we do a ceremony for them. We'll gather at the gate at 12 noon on the Sunday before Memorial Day, 12 noon, Bourne National Cemetery on Connery Road in Bourne. We appreciate anybody that, and you know, it goes year to year. Sometimes we've only had four people, sometimes we've had 20. We need to, you know, at least have a dozen somewhere in there so we look good marching down the road, for one thing. And that's it, I already mentioned the National Encampment so that's all I have.

Department Commander John Dupré: Brother Dexter.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: If I could. In Lynn, as I mentioned earlier on the sixth that's a Monday morning at 10:30, we will be gathering to have a shovel digging ceremony for the new elevator and then on the 23rd, which is a Thursday night at 6:30, we will gather at Pine Grove Cemetery. We've been doing that for umpteen million years now and we're always looking for help there. Well, we need three men that can do the, fire their rifles for salute. We'll use the

trumpet that we now have for taps. We need as many people as we can gather. Everyone and everybody is welcome.

Department Commander John Dupré: That's June?

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: No that's in May, May 6th and May 23, which is a Thursday. OK, thank you.

Department Commander John Dupré: Anyone else for Good of the Order?

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: I would like to make a motion that we reimburse the National Officer. In the past, Massachusetts has always paid the cost for the National Officer that's representing the Commander in Chief, and I would like to make a motion that we reimburse the reimburse the National Officer the money he paid for this Encampment.

Unknown: Second.

Council 1 Kevin Tucker: I'm the National Officer and I don't accept. Please keep the fee.

Department Commander John Dupré: Any further discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? Does not pass. All right. So, we will move to election and installation of Department officers. We will take a break.

Break

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Tucker: Commander Dupré, in relieving you of the command of this Department on behalf of the Officers, I convey to you their thanks for the manner in which you have discharged your duties. I trust that in surrendering the command of the Department your interests in the welfare of the Order will not cease. Having received the highest honors which your fellow members can confer upon you, your continuing commitment will point the way for others who still serve the Order. Please be seated on my left. Commander Elect, are you prepared to announce your staff appointments? If so, the Guide will hand your list to the Secretary.

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: The secretary has my list.

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Tucker: Secretary call the role of the Officers elect and staff appointees who, as their names are called, will rise.

Sec/Treas Daniel Murray: Commander Rod Fraser, Senior Vice Commander John Wilder, Junior Vice Commander Peter Preble, Secretary Treasurer John Dupré, Council William Naughton, Council Dexter Bishop, Council Kevin Tucker, Patriotic Instructor George Maple Chaplain Dexter Bishop, Graves Registration Officer William Naughton. Historian Peter Preble, Civil War Memorials Officer Matthew Sargent, Eagle Scout Officer Michael Terry, Counselor Kevin Tucker, Camp Organizer Dexter Bishop, Color Bearer Charles Lewis, Guide Charles Lewis, Guard Albert Smith, ROTC Officer Albert Smith, Webmaster Ronald Glidden,

Quartermaster John Wilder, GAR Records Officer John Wilder and Signals Officer Ronald Glidden.

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Tucker: Brothers, these are your regularly chosen Officers for the next term. If any brother has any valid reason why any of them should not be installed, let him now speak or forever hold his peace. Brother Lewis, act as Guide and present these brothers before the Altar, for installation. All of the Officers, appointed and elected, please come this way. Officers, you have been selected to positions of great honor and trust. With the Commander you will be responsible for the financial and material prosperity and interests of this Department and the members of this Encampment confidently expect that your discharge of the duties and responsibilities resting upon you will be conspicuous for zeal, ability and good works. I trust that you appreciate the great confidence placed in you and that you remember that the success or failure of this administration and this Department will depend very largely upon the manner in which you discharge the duties of your respective offices. Are you now willing to pledge solemnly to the faithful performance of your several duties?

Officers appointed and elected: I do.

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Tucker: You will each raise your right hand, place your left hand on the Bible on the shoulder of a Brother in front of you who has placed his left hand on the Bible and repeat after me, saying your name where I do mine: I, Kevin Tucker.

Officers, appointed and elected: I (each repeats his name)

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Tucker: having been regularly chosen

Officers, appointed and elected: having been regularly chosen

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Tucker: As an Officer of the Department of Massachusetts

Officers, appointed and elected: as an Officer of the Department of Massachusetts

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Tucker: Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War,

Officers, appointed and elected: Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War,

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Tucker: hereby renew

Officers, appointed and elected: hereby renew

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Tucker: the sacred obligation

Officers, appointed and elected: the sacred obligation

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Tucker: given at the time of my initiation

Officers, appointed and elected: given at the time of my initiation

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Tucker: and in the presence of Almighty God

Officers, appointed and elected: and in the presence of Almighty God

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Tucker: and the members of this Encampment here assembled

Officers, appointed and elected: and the members of this Encampment here assembled

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Tucker: do furthermore

Officers, appointed and elected: do furthermore

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Tucker: solemnly and sincerely

Officers, appointed and elected: solemnly and sincerely

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Tucker: promise and declare

Officers, appointed and elected: promise and declare

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Tucker: that I will

Officers, appointed and elected: that I will

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Tucker: to the best of my ability

Officers, appointed and elected: to the best of my ability

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Tucker: in word and deed

Officers, appointed and elected: in word and deed

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Tucker: and without fear or favor

Officers, appointed and elected: and without fear or favor

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Tucker: faithfully

Officers, appointed and elected: faithfully

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Tucker: honestly

Officers, appointed and elected: honestly

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Tucker: and impartially

Officers, appointed and elected: and impartially

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Tucker: perform all the duties of the office

Officers, appointed and elected: perform all the duties of the office

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Tucker: upon which I am about to enter

Officers, appointed and elected: upon which I am about to enter

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Tucker: So help me God

Officers, appointed and elected: So help me God

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Tucker: You can drop your hands. Encampment. Attention. Guide, conduct the Officers to their respective stations, acting Officers vacating. Guide, conduct the new Commander to this station, never mind he's here. Commander, by the votes of the members of this Encampment you have been elected to the highest office within their gift. Your election to this honorable position is evidence not only of their regard and appreciation of your work and ability as a Son of a Union Veteran of the Civil War, but it is an assurance that your conduct of the affairs of this Department will be characterized by faithful, earnest and conscientious devotion to the responsibilities resting upon you. Grave trusts and grave cares await you, and to their faithful performance I now most solemnly direct you. As no work of this nature can be a success without the assistance of the Divine Provider, The Chaplain will ask his assistance and guidance. Parade rest.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: Almighty God, heavenly Father, we humbly ask your blessing on these brothers assembled for installation. Grant them your wisdom that they may daily perform the duties of the office into which they are to be installed, with the knowledge that thou art ever watching over them. Keep them in good health that they will not falter on the way. Bless them with your great mercies that they might be competent to administer the many problems that will comfort, that will confront them. Bless their every action in your name through the mediation of your blessed son, Jesus Christ our lord. Amen.

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Tucker: Commander, your Officers are now at their respective stations, and I am about to place you in full control. But first I give to your care the Charter of this Department. Prize it for the privileges it bestows and guard it sacredly for the filial heritage it represents. Next, I place in your care the rituals of the Order and a copy of the Constitution and Regulations for the government of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, both of which I advise you to study with care, to be true to its principles and faithful to its teachings. Lastly, you will receive the gavel, the emblem of your authority. One rap calls the Encampment to order and seats the same when standing; two raps calls the Officers to their feet and three raps calls up the entire Encampment. And now, by the virtue of the authority invested in me, as Installing Officer of the Department of Massachusetts, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, I hereby declare the Officers of this Department legally elected, and installed and qualified to enter upon the discharge of their several duties for the term ending April 27, 2025, or until their successors are regularly elected, qualified and installed. Now, I am pleased to present you with the Badge of the Office of Department Commander. Angela, would you come up and pin it on Rod. Commander, assume your command. Be true to your vow, faithful to your trust,

unflinching in your loyalty and rule with civility, impartiality and firmness, and may your administration be successful.

Department Commander Rod Fraser: Thank you.

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Tucker: And now if Donna would like to come up and pin the Past Department Commander onto John.

Department Commander Rod Fraser: First of all, thank you Brothers for entrusting me with the position of Department Commander. I really, really appreciate it. Thank you very much and thank you all for being here. There being no further business to come before this Encampment, we will proceed to close. You will give attention while the Chaplain asked the blessings of God in our deliberations. Parade rest.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: Our father in heaven, we pray you will deal with the events of this meeting as you deem proper and fitting. Please answer the heartfelt prayers of each one of us, as permitted in your perfect will. Preserve us in health, strength and integrity while we remain here. And when our mission on Earth is ended, take us to a better world. Amen.

All: Amen.

Department Commander Rod Fraser: Brothers, we are about to leave this Encampment to retire to our respective homes. Let us regulate our conduct so as to bring honor and credit upon the Great Patriotic Organization we represent. May we be faithful to our vows, mindful of our duties, and exhibit toward each other an unbroken fraternity, a tender charity and an unswerving loyalty. Color Bearer, attend the altar and the station banners. Attention, I now declare the 142nd Annual Encampment of the Department of Massachusetts, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, duly closed.

6 June 2024

From: Roderick J Fraser Jr.

Encampment Site Committee Chairman

To: Department of Massachusetts Encampment

Subj: Report on the Final Budget for the 2024 Department of Massachusetts Encampment

The budget set for the 2024 Encampment was $3,000.00.

The total Expenditures for the Encampment were:

Item	Amount
Ribbons	$74.30
Band	$500.00
Hotel Deposit	$500.00
Envelopes & labels	$58.83
Copying services	$84.00
Stamps	$108.80
Centerpieces	$187.25
Final Hotel Bill	$3,201.00
Total	$4,714.18

Money collected by attendees was $1,781.00

The ending balance is as shown in the table below;

Total cost of Encampment	$4,714.18
Money collected	$1,781.00
Difference	$2,933.18
Budgeted	$3,000.00
Balance	-$66.82

The Encampment came in $66.82 under budget.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty

Roderick J Fraser Jr.

Encampment Site Committee Chairman